

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 05191 181335Z
ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 L-03 STR-05
/086 W

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R 181200Z OCT 77
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5540
USDA/WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

UNCLAS BEIRUT 5191

USDA PASS FAS/OGSM/POD

DAMASCUS PASS AGATT

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, EAID, LE
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR WAIVER TO EXPORT FLOUR AND RICE
QUANTITIES

REF: PL 480 TITLE I AGREEMENT OF APRIL 25, 1977.

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED FROM MINECON/TRADE, DIR GEN CEREALS AND SUGARBEETS OFFICE (OCBS) LETTER DATED OCTOBER 5, REQUESTING WAIVER TO EXPORT AS FEED SOME 12,000 M/T OF OCBS-OWNED WHEAT FLOUR AND 5,000 M/T DETERIORATED RICE (INCLUDING 4,500 M/T OF NORTH KOREAN RICE IMPORTED IN 1974 BY OCBS).

2. FLOUR IN QUESTION IS BALANCE OF OCBS FLOUR IMPORTED DURING 1976 HOSTILITIES AND NOW DETERIORATED IN INTERIM DUE TO POOR STORAGE CONDITIONS AND HOT WEATHER. GOL DECLARED FLOUR TO BE FEED QUALITY ONLY IN AUGUST 1977 AND UNSUCCESSFULLY OFFERED IT FOR SALE IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 1977 AS POTENTIAL PURCHASERS KNEW THAT ITS EXPORT WAS PROHIBITED AND LOCAL USES IMPROBABLE. FYI: DURING THE 1975/76 HOSTILITIES OCBS AND A NUMBER OF PRIVATE PARTIES
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AND ORGANIZATIONS IMPORTED LARGE QUANTITIES OF FLOUR (EXCESS 200,000 M/T) CONSUMED BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1977 EXCEPT FOR 12,000 M/T IN QUESTION END FYI.

3. RICE IN QUESTION INCLUDES 4,500 M/T OF NORTH KOREAN RICE IMPORTED IN 1974 BY OCBS AND NOT CONSUMED THEN BECAUSE OF DETERIORATION DURING TRANSPORTATION. GOL COULD NOT TAKE ACTION DURING

1975/1976 BECAUSE OF HOSTILITIES. COMMODITY CANNOT BE RECONDITIONED AND CAN BE USED ONLY AS FEED WHICH OCBS BELIEVES CANNOT DISPOSE OF FOR SAME REASONS AS MENTIONED FOR FLOUR. REMAINING 500 M/T IS PRIVATE TRADE-OWNED BUT IN SAME UNUSABLE CONDITION.

4. OCBS ASKS FOR FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION OF WAIVER MENTIONING THAT GOL WILL UNDERGO CONSIDERABLE PREJUDICE TRYING TO SELL THESE QUANTITIES LOCALLY, BECAUSE FEED INDUSTRY CANNOT ABSORB COMMODITIES ALSO IT BELIEVES THAT SUCH EXPORTATION MAY ACCORD WITH SPIRIT PL 480 REGULATIONS BECAUSE FEED QUALITY CONDITION EXCLUDES IT FROM QUOTE SAME OR LIKE COMMODITIES UNQUOTE PROHIBITION.

5. CURRENT OCBS MANAGEMENT MAKING VALIANT EFFORT TO CLEAN UP SOME OF LINGERING PROBLEMS FROM 1975/1976 HOSTILITIES. WE CONSIDER THIS A SALUTARY DEVELOPMENT THAT CAN BE ENCOURAGED BY FAVORABLE ACTION ON THIS REQUEST.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: 1) PLEASE ADVISE ASAP IF REQUESTED WAIVER COULD BE GRANTED; 2) IF AFFIRMATIVE WHAT ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN BY OCBS TO ENSURE THAT QUANTITIES ARE IDENTIFIED AND DISPOSED OF AS FEED.

PARKER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Sent Date: 18-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: EAGR, EAID, LE
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